

AEROBICS SELECTION NOMINATION PANEL 20 Nov 2020

Announcement Regarding GB Elite Exemptions Strategy for Worlds/WAGC Selection 2021

The Aerobics Selection Nomination Panel have already identified a first 'tranche of 'elite' gymnasts for the 2021 Worlds /WAGC selection process in the following 2 categories:-

1. Those gymnasts selected unconditionally ranked 1st for the 2020 Worlds/WAGC in March 2020 (individually OR in the same partnership) for the revised competition in 2021.
2. New partnerships whose members had either been Selected for the Worlds/WAGC 2020 OR who are current members of the Aerobics Performance Squad.

The Aerobics Selection Nomination Panel are now in the process of finalising the 2021 Worlds/WAGC Selection Policy and feel in a position to invite a further group of gymnasts as defined in (3) below:-

3. *New partnerships or individuals who are in the process of reforming and feel that they can be realistically in contention for the selection process in 2021.*

These gymnasts will also be granted 'Elite status to train' for a period of 2 months from Dec 1st 2020 to the 31 January 2021 where their progress will be reviewed by the Aerobics Selection Nomination Panel. At the end of this period they will then either be retained as 'Elite' through to the Selection Trial in 2021 (date TBC) or they will return to non-elite status and not be eligible for the 2021 Worlds/WAGC Selection Trial process.

NB the reason for this 3rd Group is to ensure all gymnasts in realistic contention for selection are considered.

Deadline for Group 3 Registration – Monday 7th Dec 2020

Coaches of Partnerships or Individuals who feel that they have gymnasts who fit into the description in 3 above should contact the Aerobics Programme Officer (joy.fern@british-gymnastics.org) with details of their gymnasts and a brief justification for the Panel of why they feel they can be in contention for Words/WAGC Selection in 2021.

Submissions to arrive please by 09.00 hrs 7th December 2020

As further general guidance to all 3 groups please see the points below that we have put together for your information ahead of the Selection Policy being published:-

We have allowed coaches/clubs as much flexibility as possible to go thru this confirming/re-building process but as will be outlined in the Worlds/WAGC 2021 Policy we will be beginning a review of all the Elite gymnasts in terms of both numbers and of potential – particularly with regard to which partnerships have the best potential to be 'Competition ready' for the Worlds/WAGC in 2021 whilst also running as fair a process as possible.

This monitoring and review is essential for the following reasons:-

- It will enable better adherence to the guidance in the BG Action Plan for **safe training** in terms of Covid 19 restrictions.
- It also makes the training environment safer and more effective for 'coach contact and support' and its challenges to the 'Team Sport' disciplines.
- It helps give coaches as optimal an environment as possible to work with those identified as having the most potential for the Major International Competitions in 2021.
- As stated above it also makes it easier to deal with some of the many 'unknowns' that lie ahead in the final selection process in 2021 – particularly with regard to selection event maximum numbers.(please also see the section below on Worlds/WAGC Selection 2021 below)

The Aerobics Selection Nomination Panel also strongly recommend from a technical viewpoint that all coaches should remember that during this current period it is not a 'race to competition readiness'. As we move through the winter we will be looking for coaches to present their partnerships for review remotely by video but they will be assessed on their future potential and not on their current skill level as there should, at this stage, be a gradual increase in skill difficulty & training load due to the Covid specific challenges after a 5-6 month lay-off. We will not be looking initially for full routines or high difficulty complex moves until nearer to Selection.



Finally – as mentioned above we are in the process of revising **the Selection Policy for the 2021 Worlds/WAGC** and hope to have it published for early December. Clearly this Policy will be a complex document and will require some options for dates and venues that may be required to deal with the likely unknowns facing the Aerobics Programme in 2021. Our aim will be to change the normal selection process as little as possible and to highlight any key differences required in 2021 due to the effects of the Coronavirus.

As an advance guide ahead of the selection policy being published - the anticipated date of the 2021 Aerobics Worlds/WAGC selection Trial will be mid to late February 2021 – Venue TBC

Any questions or clarifications relating to this announcement please contact the Programme Officer at the address above.

The Aerobics Selection Nomination Panel – 30 Nov 2020